



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1985

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HONG KONG'S CASE EMPHASISED AGAIN
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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR E.P. HO, HAS WRITTEN TO LEADING UNITED STATES SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN WHO RECENTLY VISITED HONG KONG TO REINFORCE POINTS MADE IN OPPOSITION TO THE JENKINS BILL.

MR HO FIRST REFERRED TO THE BILL'S CLAIM THAT IMPORT PENETRATION IN APPAREL PRODUCTS REACHED 50 PER CENT IN 1984.

+THIS IS MISLEADING IN TWO RESPECTS; THE BILL RELATES TO BOTH TEXTILE AND APPAREL PRODUCTS, AND FOR THESE TAKEN TOGETHER IMPORT PENETRATION IS APPROXIMATELY 20 PER CENT.

+EVEN IF APPAREL ALONE IS TAKEN, IMPORT PENETRATION IS ONLY ABOUT 20 TO 26 PER CENT. IN SOME OF THE CATEGORIES OF GOODS BROUGHT UNDER RESTRAINT BY THE U.S. RECENTLY, THROUGH THE 'CALL' SYSTEM, U.S. INDUSTRY HAS OVER 90 PER CENT OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET,+ HE SAID.

THE ARGUMENT THAT RECENT INCREASES IN UNEMPLOYMENT WERE MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO INCREASES IN IMPORTS DID NOT STAND UP, SAID MR HO. ACCORDING TO THE RETAIL INDUSTRY TRADE ACTION COALITION VIRTUALLY ALL THE JOB LOSSES OCCURRED PRIOR TO 1982 WHILE MOST OF THE GROWTH IN IMPORTS BETWEEN 1980 AND 1984 TOOK PLACE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. IT WAS MISLEADING TOO TO CLAIM THAT RECENT INCREASES IN IMPORTS SHOW THAT RESTRAINTS IMPOSED BY THE MFA AND ASSOCIATED BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ARE NOT WORKING.

+MUCH OF THE INCREASE CAME FROM UNRESTRAINED SOURCES SUCH AS THE EEC WHILE THE MAJOR DEVELOPING SUPPLIERS HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVELY RESTRAINED FOR MOST OF THEIR EXPORTS OVER THE LIFE OF THE MFA.

+OVER THE PERIOD OF THE MFA, 1974-84, THE INCREASE IN U.S. IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG OF MFA PRODUCTS HAS AVERAGED ONLY 5.2 PER CENT PER ANNUM ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL U.S. STATISTICS - AND IN THE SAME PERIOD OUR U.S. IMPORT SHARE HAS DECLINED FROM 14.1 PER CENT TO 10.5 PER CENT.

+MOREOVER, THOSE CATEGORIES REGARDED BY THE U.S. AS 'SENSITIVE' ARE ONLY PERMITTED 0.5 TO 1.5 PER CENT GROWTH UNDER THE CURRENT HONG KONG-UNITED STATES AGREEMENT WHICH STILL HAS TWO-AND-A-HALF YEARS TO GO.

+THE PRESSURE FOR INCREASED PROTECTION HAS COINCIDED WITH A LEVELLING OFF OF MFA IMPORTS INTO THE U.S. IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1985, COMPARED WITH THE FIRST HALF OF 1984, THE OVERALL INCREASE OF SUCH IMPORTS IS ONLY 1.3 PER CENT,+ SAID MR HO.

+MOREOVER, THE MAJOR RESTRAINED SUPPLIERS ACTUALLY SHOW A DECREASE - HONG KONG BY 7.6 PER CENT WHILE THE MAJOR UNRESTRAINED SUPPLIERS SHOW AN INCREASE - THE EEC BY 37 PER CENT. IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES TO SEEK TO CUT BACK RESTRAINED SUPPLIERS IS HARDLY REASONABLE.+

MR HO'S LETTER WAS SENT TO SENATOR ROBERT DOLE AND OTHER SENATORS AND TO CONGRESSMAN SAM GIBBONS AND OTHER CONGRESSMEN, ALL OF WHOM VISITED HONG KONG LAST WEEK.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1979

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SIR DAVID SEES PROGRESS OF ECIC COMPUTERISATION

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WHO TAKES A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE AUTOMATING OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES, TODAY (THURSDAY) INSPECTED THE COMPUTERISED OPERATIONS OF THE HONG KONG EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (ECIC).

ACCOMPANIED BY THE COMMISSIONER, MR YEUNG KAI-YIN, SIR DAVID WAS SHOWN THE RESULTS OF THE CORPORATION'S FIVE-YEAR COMPUTERISATION PROGRAMME.

THE ECIC IS HONG KONG'S LARGEST SOURCE OF CREDIT MANAGEMENT DATA, A +TREASURE HOUSE OF TRADE INFORMATION+ THAT IS NOW ON-LINE, MR YEUNG SAID.

AS HONG KONG'S OFFICIAL EXPORT CREDIT INSURER, ITS VOLUME OF BUSINESS HAD MORE THAN DOUBLED OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS, BUT THE NUMBER OF CLERICAL STAFF HAD REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME.

THE COMPUTERISATION PROGRAMME HAD BROUGHT MANY OTHER BENEFITS TO ECIC POLICYHOLDERS, MR YEUNG SAID. WITH A CENTRALISED DATA BASE COUPLED WITH AN ON-LINE INPUT AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM, THE CORPORATION'S UNDERWRITERS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REDUCE CONSIDERABLY THE TIME TAKEN TO ASSESS POLICYHOLDERS' CREDIT LIMIT APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF KNOWN OVERSEAS BUYERS.

PRINTOUTS OF SHIPMENTS DECLARED AND CREDIT LIMITS WERE NOW EASILY AVAILABLE. A HOT-LINE TELEPHONE SERVICE STAFFED BY ECIC PEOPLE SEATED IN FRONT OF COMPUTER VISUAL DISPLAY UNITS PROVIDED QUICK RESPONSES TO POLICYHOLDERS' QUERIES.

INTERNALLY, IMPROVEMENTS DUE TO COMPUTERISATION HAVE BEEN MOST SIGNIFICANT. ECIC OFFICERS CAN ALMOST INSTANTLY OBTAIN DATA FROM FILES ON 55 000 OVERSEAS BUYERS AND 18 000 HONG KONG EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS, MR YEUNG SAID.

A RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, WHICH COMPARES DECLARED EXPORTS WITH CREDIT LIMITS, TRIGGERS OFF WARNINGS FOR THE CORPORATION'S UNDERWRITERS IN THOSE CASES WHERE INSURED EXPORTS HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY EXCEEDED CREDIT LIMITS.

DETAILS OF PAYMENT DIFFICULTIES, CLAIMS AND RECOVERIES ARE AVAILABLE IN A FEW SECONDS. GENERAL LEDGER AND BUDGETARY CONTROL SYSTEMS ENSURE THE ECIC MANAGES ITS FINANCES EFFICIENTLY.

IN THE SECOND PHASE OF ITS COMPUTERISATION PROGRAMME, THE ECIC PLANNED TO DEVISE A MORE EFFECTIVE INFORMATION SYSTEM BY REFINING AND LINKING EXISTING PROGRAMMES TO FORM A MORE INTEGRATED DATABASE.

/THE ECIC

THE ECIC WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN 1966 TO OFFER PROTECTION TO EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF HONG KONG AGAINST LOSSES DUE TO NON-PAYMENT FOR GOODS OR SERVICES EXPORTED ON CREDIT TERMS. THE GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES ITS LIABILITIES UP TO \$4 200 MILLION.

ALTHOUGH GOVERNMENT-OWNED, THE ECIC OPERATES IN A COMMERCIAL MANNER, UNDERWRITING EACH RISK ON ITS OWN MERITS.

THE AVERAGE PREMIUM RATE IS CURRENTLY ABOUT 60 CENTS FOR EVERY \$100 WORTH OF INSURED EXPORTS. COVER INCLUDES BUYER INSOLVENCY, DEFAULT, AND REPUDIATION OF CONTRACT, AS WELL AS SUCH COUNTRY RISKS AS WAR, IMPORT BANS OR BLOCKAGE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

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+YOUTH CRIME FIGURES COMPARATIVELY LOW+

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ALTHOUGH HONG KONG HAD AN UNUSUALLY HIGH YOUTH POPULATION, OUR YOUTH, AND JUVENILE, CRIME STATISTICS WERE LOW WHEN COMPARED WITH OTHER MAJOR POPULATION CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WAS DETERMINED THAT THE POLICE WOULD DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO KEEP YOUTH CRIME FIGURES AS LOW AS POSSIBLE AND HE HAD EVERY CONFIDENCE THAT JUNIOR POLICE CALL, AS IT HAD DONE IN THE PAST, WOULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN HELPING THEM ACHIEVE THAT AIM.

MR ANNING WAS SPEAKING AT A LUNCH PRECEDING THE 15TH JUNIOR POLICE CALL CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

TALKING ABOUT THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN MODERN SOCIETY, MR ANNING SAID: "THERE IS NO DOUBT YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY, COMPARED TO THOSE WHEN I WAS YOUNG, ARE MORE WILLING TO CHALLENGE AUTHORITY, ARE MORE READY TO STAND UP FOR THEIR RIGHTS, ARE LESS LIKELY TO FOLLOW THE OLD DICTUM OF "DON'T DO AS I DO, DO AS I TELL YOU", AND ARE MORE CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMMUNITY THAN WE WERE EVER ALLOWED TO BE."

CONTRARY TO SOME SWEEPING PRONOUNCEMENTS ON THE SHORTCOMINGS OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION, HE SAID THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF HONG KONG'S YOUNG PEOPLE WERE DECENT, LAW-ABIDING AND FUN-LOVING AND, THEY TOOK A HEALTHY INTEREST IN WHAT WAS GOING ON AROUND THEM AND LOOKED TO THE FUTURE WITH FIRM CONFIDENCE.

/ON THE

ON THE OBJECTIVES OF JPC, MR ANNING POINTED OUT THAT APART FROM FIGHTING YOUTH CRIME, JPC WAS PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTING AND DIVERSE ACTIVITIES FOR THE YOUNG; WAS ENCOURAGING AND GUIDING THE YOUNG TO BECOME CARING AND RESPONSIBLE ADULTS; AND ABOVE ALL ELSE, WAS ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE AND MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION AND CONTACT BETWEEN POLICE AND YOUTH.

"JPC IS BLESSED WITH AN INHERENT PARADOX - AS IT GROWS OLDER IT GETS YOUNGER," MR ANNING CONTINUED.

HE ILLUSTRATED THAT WITH THE EXAMPLE OF LEE KIN-MAN WHO CELEBRATED HIS NINTH BIRTHDAY BY BECOMING THE 400,000TH YOUNG PERSON TO ENROL IN JPC LATE LAST MONTH.

MR ANNING ALSO NOTED THAT ALMOST HALF OF HONG KONG'S BOYS AND GIRLS JOINED JPC AS SOON AS THEY BECAME NINE, AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF OVER 3 000 PER MONTH.

AMONG MANY CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS, MR ANNING SAID A SIGNIFICANT REASON WHY JPC WAS ABLE TO ACHIEVE SO MUCH, WAS THAT IT HAD INHERITED FROM THE FORCE A CHARACTERISTIC AVERSION TO THAT MOST DEFEATIST OF WORDS - "CAN'T".

"TIME AND TIME AGAIN, IN THE PAST 11 YEARS, JPC MEMBERS HAVE PROVED THAT WHEN FACED WITH A CHALLENGE, OR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE INVOLVED IN A WORTHWHILE ACTIVITY, THEY WILL RESPOND SENSIBLY, RESPONSIBLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY," HE SAID.

"THEY WON'T ACCEPT 'NO' FOR AN ANSWER. THEY WILL GET THE JOB DONE."

TODAY'S JPC CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 18 DISTRICT JPC CLUBS WHO DISCUSSED VARIOUS MATTERS CONCERNING ABOUT JPC'S DEVELOPMENT AND ITS ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST AND FUTURE YEARS.

THEY WERE JOINED AT THE LUNCH BY MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, CHAIRMAN OF URBAN COUNCIL AND UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, AND SENIOR POLICE OFFICERS INCLUDING THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE/OPERATIONS, MR LI KWAN-HA.

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SIR HUGH NORMAN-WALKER DIES

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS LEARNED WITH MUCH REGRET OF THE DEATH OF SIR HUGH NORMAN-WALKER, WHO WAS COLONIAL SECRETARY FROM 1969 TO 1973.

SIR HUGH, WHO WAS 69, DIED YESTERDAY IN BRITAIN. HE IS SURVIVED BY LADY NORMAN-WALKER.

SIR HUGH NORMAN-WALKER, KCMG, OBE WAS BORN IN LONDON IN 1916 AND WAS BROUGHT UP LARGELY IN NORTH DEVON EXCEPT FOR PERIODS WHEN HE JOINED HIS PARENTS THEN SERVING IN INDIA. HE TOOK AN HONOURS DEGREE FROM CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

HE JOINED THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE IN 1938 AND SERVED UNTIL 1948 IN DIFFERENT CAPACITIES. SIR HUGH JOINED THE COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1949 AND WAS POSTED TO NYASALAND (NOW MALAWI).

HE WAS APPOINTED AS HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONER IN BECHUANALAND IN 1965 AND REMAINED THERE UNTIL IT BECAME INDEPENDENT AS BOTSWANA IN SEPTEMBER 1966.

SIR HUGH THEN BECAME GOVERNOR OF THE SEYCHELLES, AN APPOINTMENT HE HELD FOR TWO YEARS UNTIL BEING APPOINTED COLONIAL SECRETARY OF HONG KONG IN MARCH 1969.

ON NEWS OF HIS DEATH, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID: +SIR HUGH LEFT A VERY FOND MEMORY TO THOSE WHO WORKED WITH HIM DURING HIS TERM AS COLONIAL SECRETARY OF HONG KONG. HE WILL BE WARMLY REMEMBERED BY HIS COLLEAGUES AND A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO TREASURED HIS FRIENDSHIP FOR A LONG TIME AFTER HIS RETIREMENT FROM HONG KONG.+

THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR DENYS ROBERTS, SAID: +I KNEW HIM FOR 32 YEARS AND WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF HIS THROUGHOUT THAT PERIOD. I SHALL REMEMBER HIM AS A VERY WISE MAN AND A PERSON OF ENORMOUS WIDTH OF EXPERIENCE FROM WHICH A NUMBER OF TERRITORIES, INCLUDING HONG KONG, BENEFITTED. I SHALL MISS HIM VERY MUCH.+

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47 TIN SHUI WAI STRUCTURES CLEARED
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A TOTAL OF 47 STRUCTURES WERE CLEARED TODAY (THURSDAY) IN THE THIRD PHASE CLEARANCE OF TIN SHUI WAI TO MAKE WAY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA.

MOST OF THE 19 AFFECTED FAMILIES, COMPRISING 60 PEOPLE, HAD ALREADY LEFT THE SITE WHEN GOVERNMENT WORKERS MOVED IN THIS MORNING. HOWEVER, THREE FAMILIES REMAINED ON SITE AND REFUSED TO LEAVE DESPITE REPEATED EFFORTS BY HOUSING AND DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF.

A FEW PEOPLE THREATENED THE POLICE AND SHOUTED ABUSE. AFTER REPEATED WARNINGS WERE IGNORED, POLICE TOOK A MAN AND TWO WOMEN TO YUEN LONG POLICE STATION FOR ENQUIRIES. FIVE CHILDREN WERE ALSO LED DOWN FROM THE ROOF OF THE HUT.

THE THREE, TOGETHER WITH A 16-YEAR-OLD BOY LED DOWN FROM THE ROOF, WERE LATER RELEASED ON \$500 BAIL EACH. THE REST OF THE CHILDREN HAVE ALSO LEFT TOGETHER WITH THE GROUP.

NO-ONE WAS HURT AND THE CLEARANCE OPERATION CONTINUED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.

ALL THE AFFECTED FAMILIES HAVE BEEN OFFERED EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES OR COMPENSATION OF ABOUT \$3 MILLION FOR CROPS, FISH PONDS, POULTRY AND PIGGERIES. ALL ELIGIBLE FAMILIES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED REHOUSING BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN URGED THOSE FAMILIES WHO HAVE NOT YET COLLECTED THEIR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE.

HE SAID THE CLEARANCE COULD NOT BE POSTPONED AS ANY FURTHER DELAY WOULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN PROJECT.

HE ADDED THAT ADDITIONAL PLOTS OF LAND IN THE AREA WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARED OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

THE NEW TOWN WILL PROVIDE HOMES FOR SOME 146 500 PEOPLE IN THE NEXT DECADE, WITH SOME 79 000 OF THEM IN PUBLIC HOUSING.

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LORD MAYOR ENDS VISIT
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THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON, SIR ALAN TRAILL, AND LADY TRAILL LEFT FOR PEKING THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING AFTER A SIX-DAY VISIT IN HONG KONG.

THEY WERE SEEN OFF AT THE AIRPORT BY THE AIDE-DE-CAMP TO THE GOVERNOR, MR PAUL COLLIER, AND THE SENIOR BRITISH TRADE COMMISSIONER, MR CHRISTIAN ADAMS.

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TRANSPORT, RELATED SERVICES SURVEY RESULTS OUT
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THERE WERE 33 736 TRANSPORT ESTABLISHMENTS IN OPERATION DURING THE WHOLE OR PART OF 1983, WITH 129 678 PERSONS ENGAGED, ACCORDING TO SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

WHEN COMPARED WITH 1982, THE NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND PERSONS ENGAGED INCREASED BY THREE PER CENT AND FOUR PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

IN 1983, THESE ESTABLISHMENTS GENERATED \$43 198 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME, AND SPENT \$5 620 MILLION ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AND \$33 095 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES.

THEIR GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS (BEING ACQUISITION OF FIXED ASSETS LESS PROCEEDS FROM SALES OF FIXED ASSETS) WERE \$6 114 MILLION.

WHEN COMPARED WITH 1982, BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT, WHILE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES, OPERATING EXPENSES AND GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS WENT UP BY 11 PER CENT, 21 PER CENT AND NINE PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE SECTOR'S VALUE ADDED, REPRESENTING ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, GREW BY 21 PER CENT TO \$11 634 MILLION IN 1983, FROM \$9 616 MILLION IN 1982.

ANALYSED BY MAJOR TRANSPORT GROUP, THE SURVEY REVEALED THAT IN 1983, +SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT+ ENJOYED THE LARGEST SHARE OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME, AT \$16 207 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT OF THE SECTOR TOTAL.

+OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT+ ACCOUNTED FOR ANOTHER 24 PER CENT, WHILE +AIR TRANSPORT+ TOOK UP 14 PER CENT, +LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT+ 12 PER CENT, +LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT+ SIX PER CENT, +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT+ THREE PER CENT, +INLAND WATER TRANSPORT+ TWO PER CENT, AND +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT+ ONE PER CENT.

+LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT+ CONTRIBUTED 28 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE ADDED IN THE SECTOR. THE REMAINING CONTRIBUTION WAS ACCOUNTED FOR BY +OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT+ (20 PER CENT), +AIR TRANSPORT+ (16 PER CENT), +LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT+ (13 PER CENT), +SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT+ (11 PER CENT), +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT+ (SIX PER CENT), +INLAND WATER TRANSPORT+ (FOUR PER CENT), AND +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT+ (THREE PER CENT).

/WHEN COMPARED

WHEN COMPARED WITH 1982, +SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT+ SHOWED THE LARGEST INCREASE IN TERMS OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (30 PER CENT), FOLLOWED BY +AIR TRANSPORT+ (26 PER CENT), +LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT+ (19 PER CENT), +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT+ (18 PER CENT), +LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT+ (13 PER CENT), +OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT+ (10 PER CENT) AND +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT+ (EIGHT PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, A DECREASE OF 11 PER CENT WAS REGISTERED IN +INLAND WATER TRANSPORT+.

IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED, +AIR TRANSPORT+ RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASE (42 PER CENT), FOLLOWED BY +SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT+ (32 PER CENT), +OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT+ (29 PER CENT), +LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT+ (15 PER CENT), +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT+ (14 PER CENT), +LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT+ (12 PER CENT), AND +SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT+ (ONE PER CENT). +INLAND WATER TRANSPORT+, HOWEVER, REGISTERED A DECREASE OF SEVEN PER CENT.

THE 1983 SURVEY WAS ONE IN A SERIES OF ANNUAL SURVEYS CONDUCTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TRANSPORT SECTOR AND UPDATING ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG.

DATA COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDED TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, FLOOR AREA, NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES, OPERATING EXPENSES, BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

ANALYTICAL TABLES SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR ALL ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED BY MAJOR GROUP AND ANALYSED BY THE VARIOUS ECONOMIC VARIABLES COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE STATISTICAL REPORT ENTITLED +1983 SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES+.

THIS REPORT WILL BE ON SALE SOON AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, KAI TAK COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 317 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT WILL BE USEFUL TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR POLICY FORMULATION, AND TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR DECISION MAKING, ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, AND MARKET RESEARCH.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRANSPORT AND SERVICES STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT TELEPHONE 3-661045.

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COMPARISON OF SELECTED PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR ALL ESTABLISHMENTS
IN THE TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES SECTOR BETWEEN 1982 AND 1983

MAJOR GROUP		NUMBER OF ESTABLISH- MENTS	NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	COMPENSA- TION OF	OPERATING	BUSINESS	GROSS	VALUE
					EMPLOYEES	EXPENSES	RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME	ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS	ADDED
					\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.	\$ Mn.
LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT	1982	16 238	45 217	29 498	1 446	2 170	4 265	4 114	2 819
	1983	18 013	47 396	29 723	1 528	2 312	5 056	7 238	3 230
	% change	+11	+5	+1	+6	+34	+19	+76	+15
LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT	1982	12 897	25 950	12 827	416	1 186	2 298	209	1 330
	1983	11 948	26 689	14 985	497	1 413	2 592	152	1 494
	% change	-7	+3	+17	+19	+19	+13	-28	+12
SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT	1982	37	578	566	26	46	354	4	302
	1983	49	675	654	31	70	481	5	306
	% change	+32	+17	+16	+20	+53	+8	+22	+1
OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT	1982	379	15 516	15 488	1 140	7 487	9 498	665	1 785
	1983	421	15 655	15 626	1 236	8 239	10 494	146	2 304
	% change	+11	+1	+1	+8	+10	+10	-78	+29
INLAND WATER TRANSPORT	1982	856	7 759	6 179	253	638	1 082	228	504
	1983	789	7 093	5 617	248	536	967	104	470
	% change	-8	-9	-9	-2	-16	-11	-54	-7
SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT	1982	587	4 665	4 147	168	672	1 078	76	572
	1983	683	5 026	4 498	222	797	1 273	156	652
	% change	+16	+8	+8	+18	+19	+18	+105	+14
AIR TRANSPORT	1982	46	8 210	8 210	914	3 600	4 329	216	1 330
	1983	46	8 441	8 441	1 051	4 231	5 227	-1 847	1 891
	% change	0	+3	+3	+15	+18	+26	-954	+42
SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT	1982	1 716	17 066	16 272	672	11 527	12 496	89	974
	1983	1 787	18 703	17 934	807	14 897	16 207	160	1 288
	% change	+4	+10	+10	+20	+29	+30	+79	+32
ALL TRANSPORT GROUPS	1982	32 756	124 960	93 186	5 054	27 324	36 000	5 603	9 616
	1983	33 736	129 678	97 478	5 620	33 095	43 198	6 114	11 634
	% change	+3	+4	+5	+11	+21	+20	+9	+21
GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT SERVICES	1982	4	2 516	2 516	179	403	998	-591	733
	1983	3	1 276	1 276	125	288	965	54	730
	% change	-25	-49	-49	-30	-28	-3	-109	#

Notes : (1) Individual items may not add up to total due to rounding.

(2) Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures.

(3) # denotes less than 0.5% in magnitude.

(4) The Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation was established in early 1983. Hence, its data relating to 1983 were included in the major group "Land passenger transport" instead of "Government transport services".

(5) Value added is a measure of the contribution of an economic sector to Hong Kong's gross domestic product. It is derived by subtracting the operating expenses (adjusted for interest payments and payments to outworkers) from the value of business receipts and other income. The exact definition can be found in the survey report.

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GOLD MEDALS FOR 47 MARATHON HIKERS
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TONIGHT (THURSDAY) PRESENTED MEDALS TO GOLD AWARD WINNERS OF A COMPETITION FOR MARATHON HIKERS.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT HONG KONG SPACE MUSEUM, HE SAID THE FACT THAT A MAN OF 60 AND A BOY OF 16 BOTH WON THE GOLD AWARD MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE WAS NO AGE LIMIT FOR HIKING -- IT WAS A SPORT FOR ALL.

THERE WERE FEW CITIES IN THE WORLD WHERE IN LESS THAN 20 MINUTES FROM THE CITY CENTRE A PERSON COULD BE ALONE IN THE MOUNTAINS, HE ADDED.

+IN FACT WE HAVE SOME OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND REMOTE COUNTRYSIDE IN THE WORLD WHICH IS ENJOYED BY MANY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE EVERY YEAR.+

THE AWARD SCHEME, KNOWN AS THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE'S AWARD FOR MARATHON HIKERS, WAS ORGANISED BY THE KAM CHING (GOLD AWARD) ASSOCIATION AND ATTRACTED MORE THAN 1 200 PEOPLE WHO TOOK PART IN NUMEROUS WALKS.

A TOTAL OF 201 PEOPLE WERE PRESENTED WITH GOLD, SILVER, BRONZE MEDALS AND OTHER AWARDS AT TODAY'S PRESENTATION.

EACH OF THE 47 GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS HAD COMPLETED ABOUT 130 KILOMETRES WITHIN 20 HOURS IN THREE SEPARATE WALKS HELD IN SAI KUNG, TAI PO AND ON LANTAU ISLAND BETWEEN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR AND IN JANUARY.

THE AWARD SCHEME, STARTED LAST YEAR, IS ORGANISED TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO IMPROVE THEIR PHYSIQUE BY JOINING SUCH LONG WALKS.

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FARMERS TO BE TRAINED ON USE OF MACHINES
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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS ORGANISING A VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSE FOR FARMERS TO EDUCATE THEM IN THE PROPER USE OF MODERN FARM MACHINES AND HOW TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN THEM.

THE COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S TAI LUNG EXPERIMENTAL FARM STARTING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TWICE A WEEK UNTIL OCTOBER 8.

/THE PROGRAMME

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THE PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL TRAINING ON THE PROPER HANDLING, REPAIR AND SERVICING OF FARM CULTIVATORS, MOTORISED SPRAYERS AND THE SPRINKLER IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

DISCUSSION SESSIONS WILL ALSO BE HELD DURING WHICH TECHNICAL ADVICE WILL BE GIVEN ON WAYS TO SOLVE EVERYDAY MECHANICAL PROBLEMS.

THE COURSE, THE FIFTH IN THE SERIES, FORMS PART OF A REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TRAINING ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE PIPELINE INCLUDE A SERIES OF ONE-DAY OR HALF-DAY SEMINARS ON THE SAFE HANDLING AND USE OF ROTARY CULTIVATORS.

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SEWAGE EFFLUENTS A BOON TO POND FISH GROWTH
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AQUACULTURE RESEARCH BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAS DEMONSTRATED THE POTENTIAL OF USING SEWAGE EFFLUENTS FOR POND FISH PRODUCTION, FISH CULTURE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, MR ALFRED SIN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

RESULTS OF FISH CULTURE TRIALS CONDUCTED IN OXIDATION PONDS AT THE SHEK WU HUI SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT IN RECENT YEARS SHOWED THAT SELECTED SPECIES GREW IN SEWAGE EFFLUENTS AT A HIGHER RATE THAN IN COMMERCIAL PONDS AND THE YIELD WAS ENCOURAGING, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON RECYCLING OF ORGANIC WASTES ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, MR SIN SAID THAT THE INLAND FISH CULTURE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG HAD DEVELOPED STEADILY IN THE 1970'S AND EARLY 80'S.

AS MOST PONDS WERE RAIN-FED, WATER SUPPLY WAS A MAJOR CONSTRAINT TO DEVELOPMENT. OTHER CONSTRAINTS WERE INCREASING PRICES OF FEED-STUFFS WHICH RESULTED IN HIGHER PRODUCTION COST AND THE LOSS OF POND AREAS TO URBANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT, HE ADDED.

+ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE AND TREATED EFFLUENTS, RICH IN NUTRIENTS, IS BECOMING A GLOBAL PROBLEM.

+THE DISPOSAL OR USE OF THESE EFFLUENTS IN FISH CULTURE IS THEREFORE GIVEN PRIORITY IN MANY COUNTRIES.+

/A SERIES

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A SERIES OF TRIALS WAS THEREFORE UNDERTAKEN, USING TILAPIA, A COMMON POND FISH, AS THE EXPERIMENTAL SPECIES.

CHOSEN FOR ITS HARDINESS AND ABILITY TO THRIVE IN ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTS, THE TILAPIA IS CAPABLE OF UTILISING THE PLANKTON IN THE TREATED SEWAGE AS A MAIN FOOD SOURCE.

THE TRIAL WAS EXTENDED OVER A PERIOD OF 190 DAYS WITH TILAPIAS CULTURED IN TWO OXIDATION PONDS -- ONE RECEIVING SECONDARY EFFLUENTS FROM THE ACTIVATED SLUDGE SYSTEM WHILE THE OTHER RECEIVED A MIXTURE OF SECONDARY EFFLUENTS FROM THE ACTIVATED SLUDGE AND THE HIGH RATE BIOLOGICAL FILTER SYSTEMS.

RESULTS SHOWED THAT TILAPIAS IN BOTH PONDS GREW AND SURVIVED WELL WITHOUT FEEDING. THOSE IN THE SECOND POND WERE MORE PRODUCTIVE AS A RESULT OF THE HIGHER NUTRIENT CONTENTS.

+THE BACTERIA AND HEAVY METAL CONTENTS DETECTED IN THE FISH WERE FOUND TO BE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN COMMERCIAL SPECIES AND WERE WITHIN SAFETY LIMITS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION,+ MR SIN SAID.

EXPERIMENTS WERE ALSO CONDUCTED TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF CULTURING TRADITIONAL CHINESE CARPS SUCH AS SILVER CARP, BIGHEAD, GRASS CARP AND COMMON CARP.

+THE SILVER CARP AND BIGHEAD GREW BETTER IN THE OXIDATION PONDS THAN IN COMMERCIAL PONDS UNDER NORMAL SITUATION WHILE THE GROWTH OF THE COMMON CARP WAS SATISFACTORY.

+HOWEVER, THE SURVIVAL AND GROWTH RATES OF THE GRASS CARP IN BOTH PONDS WERE CONSIDERED POOR PROBABLY BECAUSE THE WATER QUALITY WAS NOT SUITABLE FOR ITS GROWTH,+ MR SIN SAID.

FURTHER STUDIES WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE LARGESCALE PRODUCTION COULD BE INTRODUCED, HE ADDED.

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WAN CHAI CONTEST TO FOCUS ON CONCERN FOR ELDERLY

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A COMPETITION ON CREATIVE SCRIPT-WRITING FOR SLIDE-SHOWS WITH THEMES RELATING TO THE ELDERLY WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD TO PROMOTE RESPECT AND CARE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AMONG YOUTHS IN THE DISTRICT.

THE BEST SCRIPT WILL BE USED TO PRODUCE A SET OF SLIDES WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF VOLUNTEERS FROM THE METHODIST CENTRE, AND WILL BE ON LOAN TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS TO FURTHER PROMOTE CONCERN FOR THE ELDERLY.

/DETAILS OF

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DETAILS OF THE CONTEST WERE ANNOUNCED BY MS ANNA TANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONCERN FOR THE AGED WORKING GROUP UNDER THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY).

+THERE IS A LARGE POPULATION OF ELDERLY PEOPLE IN WAN CHAI AND OUR AIMS ARE TO PROMOTE THEIR WELFARE AND TO CULTIVATE RESPECT AND CARE FOR THEM ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT,+ MS TANG SAID.

THIS YEAR, THE DISTRICT BOARD HAS ALLOCATED ABOUT \$15 000 TO FINANCE ACTIVITIES FOR THE ELDERLY.

UNDER THE PROGRAMME, ELDERLY RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY DISCOUNTS FOR SHOPPING, EATING OUT AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

MORE THAN 50 SHOP AND RESTAURANT OWNERS, DOCTORS AND DENTISTS HAVE JOINED THE DISCOUNT-SERVICE CARD SCHEME FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE SCHEME HAS PROVED TO BE MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE ELDERLY SINCE ITS IMPLEMENTATION LAST YEAR AND MORE THAN 1 600 SENIOR CITIZENS HAVE REGISTERED AND WERE ISSUED WITH THE CARDS, MS TANG SAID.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ARE ALSO PLANNING TO CONDUCT A SURVEY ON THE LIVING HABITS AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE ELDERLY BY VISITING AND SENDING OUT QUESTIONNAIRES TO ELDERLY PEOPLE LIVING IN +CAGED-HOUSES+ AND THOSE WHO ARE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.

THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A SPECIAL BULLETIN, MS TANG SAID.

THE WORKING GROUP WILL ALSO SERVE AS THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ALL ELDERLY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE VARIOUS AGENCIES IN THE DISTRICT BY COMPILING A LEAFLET ON VARIOUS LOCAL ACTIVITIES.

IN ADDITION, A SERIES OF SEMINARS ON THE ROLE OF THE ELDERLY IN THE COMMUNITY AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

OTHER SPEAKERS AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE INCLUDED DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM; CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE, MR LO KAM-WAH; AND THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS DONNA WONG.

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DB COMMITTEE MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC
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SHAM SHUI PO RESIDENTS WILL, FOR THE FIRST TIME, OBSERVE COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEDURES OF THE LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD WHEN THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETS TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

AT AN EARLIER MEETING, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AGREED THAT IN ORDER TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND CONCERN FOR THE WORK OF THE BOARD, FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHOULD BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

AT TOMORROW'S MEETING, MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO FURTHER EXPAND THE +SHAM SHUI PO COMMUNITY MEDICAL SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY+ SCHEME ADVOCATED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD IN APRIL LAST YEAR.

THEY WILL ALSO DECIDE ON WHETHER TO SET UP ANOTHER WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE CONDITIONS OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

ALSO ON THE AGENDA WILL BE 16 APPLICATIONS FOR SUBSIDIES TO ORGANISE VARIOUS ART, RECREATIONAL AND OUTDOOR PROJECTS.

MEMBERS WILL THEN BE BRIEFED ON THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY CENTRES RECENTLY TAKEN OVER BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD AT 2.15 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 39 TONKIN STREET.

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BOARD MEMBERS LOOK AT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL
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WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS TODAY (THURSDAY) LEARNED DURING A TOUR OF HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HOW AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS OPERATED TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF AIR TRAVELLERS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PAUL WONG, MEMBERS VISITED THE CONTROL TOWER AND WATCHED PLANES TAKE OFF AND LAND ON THE RUNWAY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT STAFF.

MEMBERS THEN WENT TO THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE WHERE THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE AIR EN-ROUTE CONTROL AND THE TERMINAL RADAR CONTROL.

AT THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNIT, MEMBERS VISITED THE AEROFIXED CENTRE AND THE AEROMOBILE CENTRE TO OBSERVE HOW STAFF COMMUNICATED WITH AIR TERMINALS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AND AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT.

+THE VISIT WAS BOTH INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE,+ DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR MICHAEL CHENG, SAID AFTER THE TOUR.

+IT WAS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF VISITS ORGANISED TO PROVIDE DB MEMBERS WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE FUNCTIONS AND WORKING PROCEDURES OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES INSTITUTIONS,+ HE ADDED.

+THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED DURING SUCH VISITS WILL BE HELPFUL TO MEMBERS WHEN EXPLAINING AND CONVEYING POLICY ISSUES RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED IN THE COURSE OF THEIR MEETINGS WITH THE PUBLIC,+ MR CHENG SAID.

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SHA TIN HOSPITAL OFFERS 24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
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THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL IN SHA TIN WILL EXTEND ITS SERVICE TO 24 HOURS A DAY BEGINNING NEXT MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 2), THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

AT PRESENT, THE DEPARTMENT ONLY OPERATES FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM DAILY.

THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL WAS FIRST OPENED IN MAY 1984 AND ITS ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICE WAS OPENED LAST SEPTEMBER.

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U.S. MAKES EA CALL ON CATEGORY 360
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAD MADE AN EXPORT AUTHORISATION (EA) CALL ON CATEGORY 360 (COTTON PILLOWCASE).

THIS IS THE THIRD EA CALL BY THE UNITED STATES SO FAR THIS YEAR.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HONG KONG-U.S. BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT, THE DEPARTMENT HAS SUSPENDED THE ISSUE OF FURTHER EA'S IN THIS CATEGORY WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT PENDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. AUTHORITIES.

EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS COVERING A TOTAL OF 869 555 PIECES HAD BEEN ISSUED IN 1985 AT THE TIME OF CALL, AND THERE WAS NO OUTSTANDING EA APPLICATION.

THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO APPROVE AND ISSUE EXPORT LICENCES FOR THIS CATEGORY AGAINST VALID EXPORT AUTHORISATIONS APPROVED PRIOR TO THE SUSPENSION.

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ITALIAN WINE FOUND TO BE TOXIC
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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT A BRAND OF ITALIAN WINE HAS BEEN FOUND TO CONTAIN DIETHYLENE GLYCOL.

THE NAME OF THE WINE IS VENDEMMIA CORTESE DI GAVI BERRETTA GIORGIO 1984.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THIS WAS THE FIRST BRAND OF ITALIAN WINE IDENTIFIED AS CONTAINING THE TOXIC CHEMICAL. INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING TO ESTABLISH HOW MANY BOTTLES OF THIS WINE HAVE BEEN IMPORTED INTO HONG KONG.

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CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND ON REPULSE BAY BEACH

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CONSTRUCTION WORK ON A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND A REST GARDEN ON REPULSE BAY BEACH WILL BEGIN IN OCTOBER AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN APRIL NEXT YEAR IN TIME FOR THE NEXT SWIMMING SEASON.

THE PLAYGROUND AND THE REST GARDEN WILL BE BUILT ON THE SITE OF THE FORMER BARBECUE AREA MEASURING ABOUT 1 400 SQUARE METRES AT THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE BEACH, ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL.

THERE WILL BE FIVE PIECES OF PLAY EQUIPMENT INCLUDING SLIDES, SWINGS AND CLIMBING POLES, AS WELL AS SAFETY MATTING AT THE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA. THE REST GARDEN WILL HAVE SEATS, PAVILIONS AND PLANTERS.

+THE COUNCIL DECIDES TO UNDERTAKE THE CONSTRUCTION WORK DURING THE NON-SWIMMING SEASON, THAT IS, BETWEEN OCTOBER AND APRIL, SO AS TO CAUSE THE LEAST INCONVENIENCE TO BEACH-GOERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

+THE \$2.6 MILLION PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY THAT ALL EXCEPT ONE OF THE EXISTING MATURE TREES AND SHRUBS AT THE SITE WILL BE PRESERVED.

+THE PRESERVATION OF THE GREENERY IS MEANT TO BE IN HARMONY WITH THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT ON THE BEACH AND INTEGRATED WITH THE BEACH'S FUTURE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT. THE ONLY TREE TO BE TORN DOWN HAS NO RETENTION VALUE BECAUSE IT WAS BADLY DAMAGED BY TYPHOON ELLEN.+

SOME 55 PITS AT THE FORMER BARBECUE AREA WERE DEMOLISHED IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR FOLLOWING WIDESPREAD COMPLAINTS THAT THE SITE WAS A MAJOR SOURCE OF NOISE AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION. THE SITE HAS SINCE BEEN DEVELOPED INTO A TEMPORARY REST GARDEN.

YOUTH ATHLETES COMPLETE TRAINING
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SOME 500 PARTICIPANTS OF THE SUMMER YOUTH ATHLETICS TRAINING COURSE 1985 (HONG KONG) WILL TAKE PART IN A GRADUATION ATHLETIC MEET AT THE WAN CHAI SPORTS GROUND ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 31).

THE TRAINING COURSE WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE SOUTH CHINA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION. IT HAS PROVED TO BE A VERY POPULAR PROJECT AMONG YOUNGSTERS SINCE IT WAS FIRST STARTED IN 1977.

APART FROM PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR PARTICIPANTS, THE COURSE ALSO ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO MAKE GOOD USE OF SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAY, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL.

THE GRADUATION ATHLETIC MEET WILL START AT 11.45 A.M. ON THAT DATE AND URBAN COUNCILLOR MR JOSEPH CHAN WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO THE WINNERS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT.

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GRANTS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES APPROVED
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THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT HAS RECOMMENDED GRANTS OF \$1.9 MILLION DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB BE USED TO SET UP OR IMPROVE PERMANENT FACILITIES FOR YOUTH RECREATION.

SINCE 1980, THE JOCKEY CLUB HAD CONTRIBUTED A TOTAL OF \$8.6 MILLION TO ASSIST 31 YOUTH PROJECTS AND THIS YEAR'S DONATION HAD BEEN ALLOCATED TO THREE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

CARITAS RECEIVED \$750 000 FOR THE RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS AT ITS SIU TONG CAMP IN SAI KUNG. THE IMPROVED FACILITIES AT THE CAMP WILL ATTRACT MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TO ENJOY VARIOUS LAND AND WATER SPORTS.

/A SUK

A SUM OF \$650 000 HAD GONE TO THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A THREE-STORY YOUTH HOSTEL AT ITS TAI TAM CAMPSITE WHICH IS POPULAR WITH SCOUTS AND OTHER YOUTH ORGANISATIONS.

THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION ALSO OBTAINED \$500 000 FOR CONVERTING A FORMER VILLAGE SCHOOL AT SAM SHING HUI IN TUEN MUN INTO A HOLIDAY CAMP, TO PROVIDE ANOTHER MUCH-NEEDED VENUE FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW TOWN.

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KWUN TONG BACKLANE CLEARED
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WORK BEGAN TODAY (THURSDAY) TO DEMOLISH 58 ILLEGAL STRUCTURES IN A CLEARANCE OPERATION IN KWUN TONG.

LOCATED IN THE BACKLANE OF YEE ON STREET, MORE THAN HALF OF THE STRUCTURES WERE USED FOR COMMERCIAL OR STORAGE PURPOSES.

TWENTY-TWO PEOPLE FROM 10 FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE CLEARANCE WERE RE-HOUSED IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS, WHILE 15 OPERATORS WERE GRANTED EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE FOR THEIR COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

THE OPERATION WILL TAKE ANOTHER THREE WORKING DAYS TO COMPLETE.

TODAY'S CLEARANCE WAS PART OF A LARGESCALE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME, ENTITLED +OPERATION FAR FLING+ INITIATED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN DECEMBER 1983 WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD.

SO FAR ABOUT 300 ILLEGAL BACKLANE STRUCTURES HAVE BEEN DEMOLISHED UNDER THE OPERATION, LEAVING SOME 900 STRUCTURES TO BE CLEARED.

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NEW PREMISES FOR SWD TUEN MUN OFFICES
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS VARIOUS UNITS HAVE MOVED TO NEW PREMISES ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN.

THE UNITS ARE THE REHABILITATION AND ELDERLY OFFICE, THE SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT AND THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICE.

THE DISTRICT'S FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE WILL ALSO BE MOVING TO THE SAME ADDRESS ON SEPTEMBER 6.

THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE VARIOUS UNITS ARE:

TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE	0-4513115
REHABILITATION AND ELDERLY OFFICE	0-4513128
TUEN MUN FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE	0-4513124
TUEN MUN SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT	0-4513118
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICE	0-4513133

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TRAFFIC PLAN SET FOR FOOTBALL SEASON
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE HAPPY VALLEY AREA FROM SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 1) WHENEVER THERE IS A FOOTBALL MATCH AT HONG KONG STADIUM.

TWO HOURS BEFORE THE START OF EACH MATCH THE FOLLOWING MEASURES, WHICH WILL LAST THROUGHOUT THE FOOTBALL SEASON, WILL COME INTO EFFECT:

- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN HOI PING ROAD AND STADIUM PATH WILL BE REROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD AND COTTON PATH WILL BE RESTRICTED TO VEHICLES REQUIRING LOCAL ACCESS.

/* EASTERN HOSPITAL

- * EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE REROUTED ONE WAY NORTHBOUND, BUT VEHICLES WILL STILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE CAR PARK OF ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL FROM TUNG LO WAN ROAD.
- * LINK ROAD BETWEEN CAROLINE HILL ROAD AND HAPPY VIEW TERRACE WILL BE REROUTED ONE-WAY UPHILL. VEHICLES LEAVING THE UPPER SECTION OF BROADWOOD ROAD, HAPPY VIEW TERRACE AND LEIGHTON HILL SHOULD PROCEED VIA BROADWOOD ROAD TO WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD.
- * WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ON HYSAN AVENUE WILL HAVE TO TURN LEFT INTO LEIGHTON ROAD EASTBOUND.
- * SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON SUN WUI ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO LEIGHTON ROAD WESTBOUND.
- * CMB ROUTE 17 ON JOURNEY TO SO KON PO WILL BE DIVERTED TO USE TUNG LO WAN ROAD, MORETON TERRACE, CAUSEWAY ROAD AND LEIGHTON ROAD.
- * GREEN MINIBUSES ON ROUTES 5 AND 14M BOUND FOR CAUSEWAY BAY WILL HAVE TO PROCEED VIA WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD AND MORRISON HILL ROAD.
- * GREEN MINIBUSES ON ROUTE 30 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD TO MORRISON HILL ROAD, AND ITS SHORT-WORKING SERVICE BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND HAPPY VALLEY WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD AND LEIGHTON ROAD TO HOI PING ROAD.

FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE THE END OF THE MATCH, CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND HOI PING ROAD WILL BECOME ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND.

CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN LEIGHTON ROAD AND COTTON PATH WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC. LINK ROAD WILL ALSO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT FOR ACCESS TO OR FROM PREMISES AT LINK ROAD VIA BROADWOOD ROAD.

MATHESON STREET, RUSSELL STREET, SHARP STREET EAST AND THE SECTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD SOUTH OF IRVING STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED TO LEARNER DRIVERS BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4.30 PM DURING DAY MATCHES, AND BETWEEN 7.30 PM AND 8.30 PM IN THE CASE OF NIGHT MATCHES.

PARKING SPACES ON SUN WUI ROAD, STADIUM PATH AND THE UNNAMED ROAD AROUND THE STADIUM WILL BE SUSPENDED ABOUT FOUR HOURS BEFORE THE MATCH.

THE SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, WILL LAST UNTIL CROWDS HAVE DISPERSED AFTER THE MATCH.

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OI KWAN ROAD TEMPORARILY REROUTED

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OI KWAN ROAD IN WAN CHAI WILL BE REROUTED ONE-WAY CLOCKWISE BETWEEN 6 PM AND 11 PM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 31) TO ALLOW A BEAUTY PAGEANT TO BE HELD AT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM.

DURING THE PERIOD, METERED PARKING SPACES ON OI KWAN ROAD OUTSIDE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED.

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SHATIN PASS ROAD SECTION CLOSED

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A SECTION OF SHATIN PASS ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD TO A POINT 100 METRES NORTH OF THE JUNCTION HAS BEEN CLOSED TO TRAFFIC TO FACILITATE EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR WORKS.

THE SECTION OF SHATIN PASS ROAD, BETWEEN THE CLOSED PART AND FEI NGO SHAN ROAD, HAS BEEN REROUTED TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC. MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO USE FEI NGO SHAN ROAD TO APPROACH THE REROUTED SECTION.

THE ABOVE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT IS EXPECTED TO LAST FOR ABOUT FIVE DAYS.

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